Connect-Arkansas
A Partnership for a Better Future

Connect Arkansas: Mapping & Planning Grant Extension - Executive Summary

In response to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's extension of the three-year mapping and planning grants through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, Connect Arkansas (Connect) submitted applications to implement continued mapping of broadband access throughout the state, as well as innovative programs to increase statewide collaboration on broadband planning, create e-government solutions and provide technical assistance to counties, and work with students and special interest groups on training. The grant extension timing is October 1, 2011 through September 30, 2014.

Funding. In addition to the initial grant award of $2.1 million, Connect is requesting $4.3 million through the State Broadband Data and Development Grant program to implement programs aimed at mapping and verification of broadband access at the address level; driving state wide collaboration; helping e-Communities move to the next level; and providing training to special interest groups such as farmers. This SBDD program involves several collaborative partners, including the Arkansas Geographic Information Office and the Arkansas Farm Bureau. The funding requests for the Connect Arkansas's applications include:

Connect Arkansas: Broadband Data & Development	Total Fed Request	Match: Cash	Match: In-Kind	Total Match
Data Collection	**$1,656,547**	-	-	-
Improving Address Files	**$1,129,441**	$739,800	-	$739,800
Planning	**$1,608,140**	$190,380	$261,360	$451,740
Total	**$4,394,128**	$930,180	$261,360	$1,191,540

Connect Deliverables. The major deliverables for the program areas in which Connect submitted applications are as follows:

Mapping

- Connect will implement address mapping methodology in census block areas greater than two square miles.
- Connect will produce address point files for the state by partnering with AR Geographic Information Office.
- Connect will gather information pertaining to typical and maximum advertised speeds at the census block and street segment levels.
- Connect will continue to integrate public data sources into broadband access information.

Planning

- Develop macro broadband plan for the state reflecting input from state government and private sector entities.
- Initiate training workshops and information sharing-activities for e-Community leaders.
- Conduct engineering assessments in 14 e-communities.
- Develop 14 county websites to encourage citizens' use of government data.
- Help e-Communities develop programming and fundraising plans.
- Develop database of Subject Matter Experts who can volunteer to provide assistance.
- Engage EAST Initiative students to help train students and families on computers.
- Partner with the Arkansas Farm Bureau to provide internet education and training for farmers.

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Connect Arkansas: Expanding Broadband Use in Arkansas - Executive Summary

In response to the Notice of Funds Availability for the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act released on January 15, 2010, Connect Arkansas (Connect) submitted two applications ("Expanding Broadband Use in Arkansas – Mobile Public Computer Centers" and "Expanding Broadband Use in Arkansas Through Education") to implement a collaborative effort with the goal of dramatically increasing citizen use of broadband internet. Connect is currently completing due diligence on the application for Expanding Broadband Use in Arkansas Through Education.

Funding. Connect requested $4.8 million through the Sustainable Broadband Adoption (SBA) program to implement technology, entrepreneurship and healthcare programs aimed at reaching students, parents and healthcare providers across the state. This SBA program involves several collaborative partners, including University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, Arkansas Economic Acceleration Foundation, the Little Rock School District and University of Arkansas at Monticello. The funding requests for the Connect Arkansas's: *"Expanding Broadband Use"* applications include:

Connect Arkansas: Expanding Broadband Use	Total Fed Request	Match	Total Project
Total SBA Request	**$3,749,942.74**	**$1,033,510.94**	**$4,783,453.68**

Connect Deliverables. The major deliverables for the program areas, in which Connect submitted a statewide application, are as follows:

- Initiate UAMS Healthcare adoption pilot program and outreach campaign
- Conduct statewide comprehensive Marketing & Public Awareness Campaign
- Offer technology training pilot with home computer distribution to families with school-aged children
- Offer online entrepreneurship tool
- Provide technology entrepreneurship education pilot to students in 5-12th grades
- Coordinate education program delivery with state partners
- Engage e-Communities in the delivery of SBA programs

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Arkansas Wireline/Fixed-Wireless Broadband Availability

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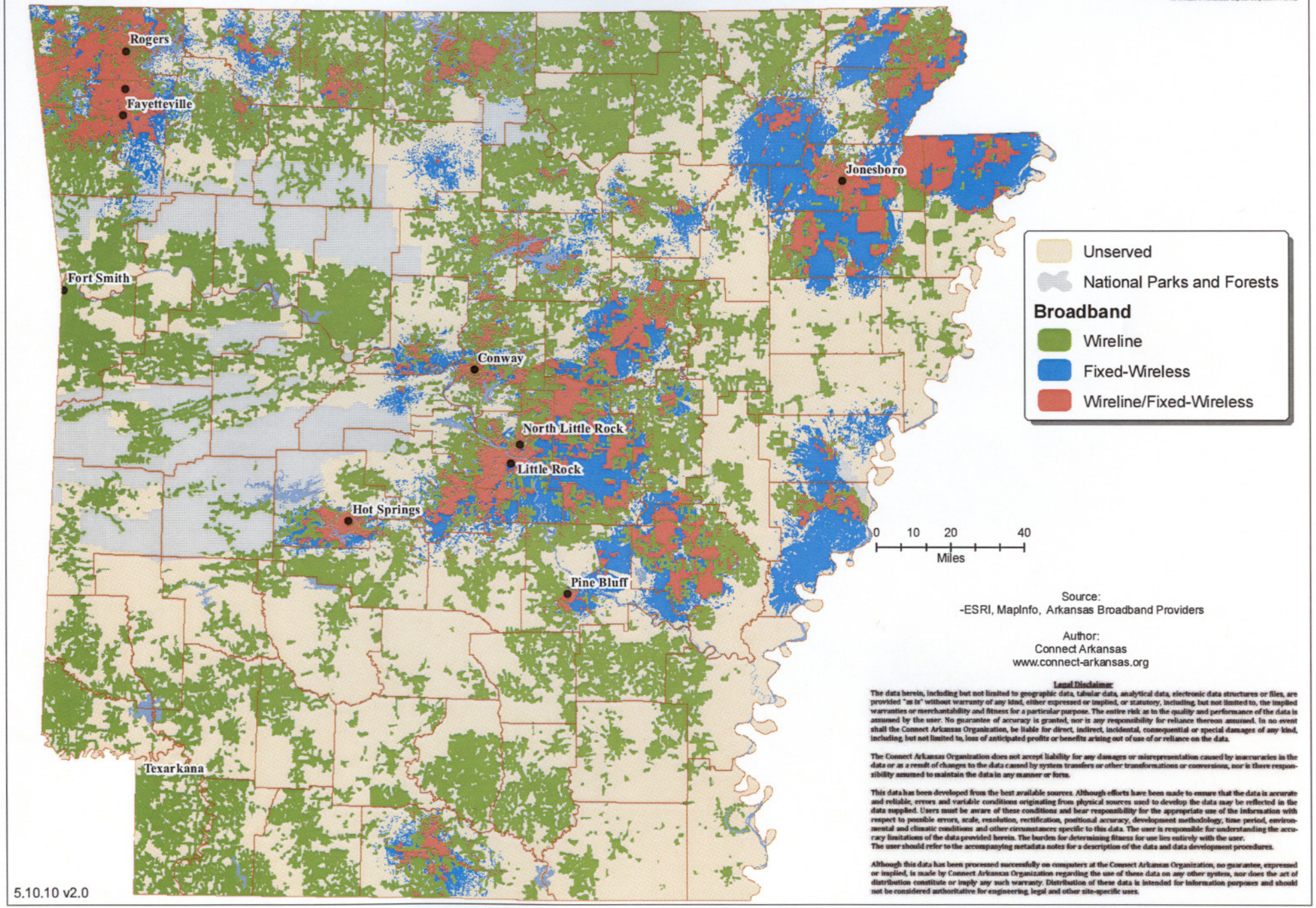

Source:
-ESRI, MapInfo, Arkansas Broadband Providers

Author:
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Arkansas Mobile-Wireless/Satellite Broadband Availability

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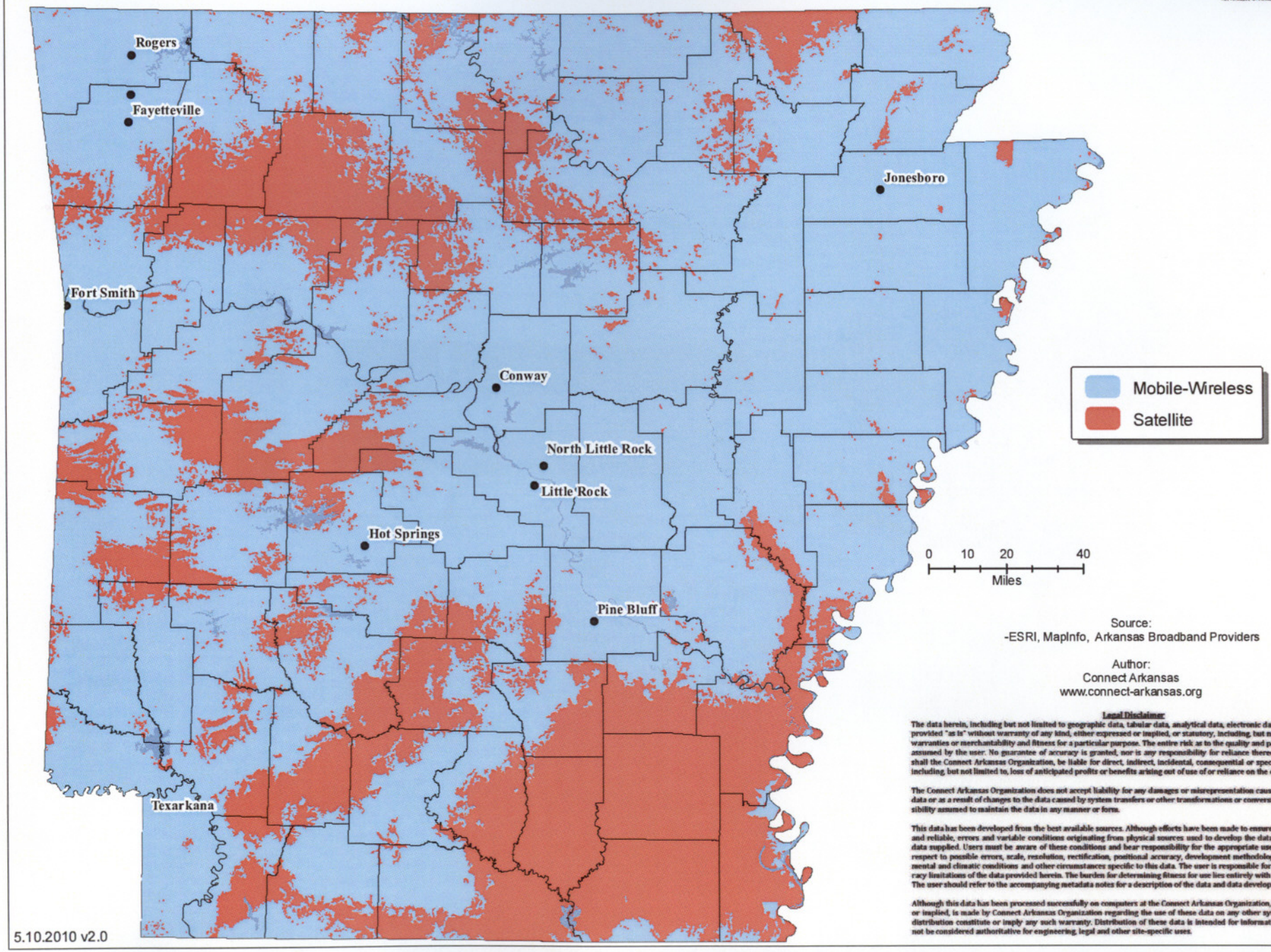

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Arkansas Wireline Broadband Availability

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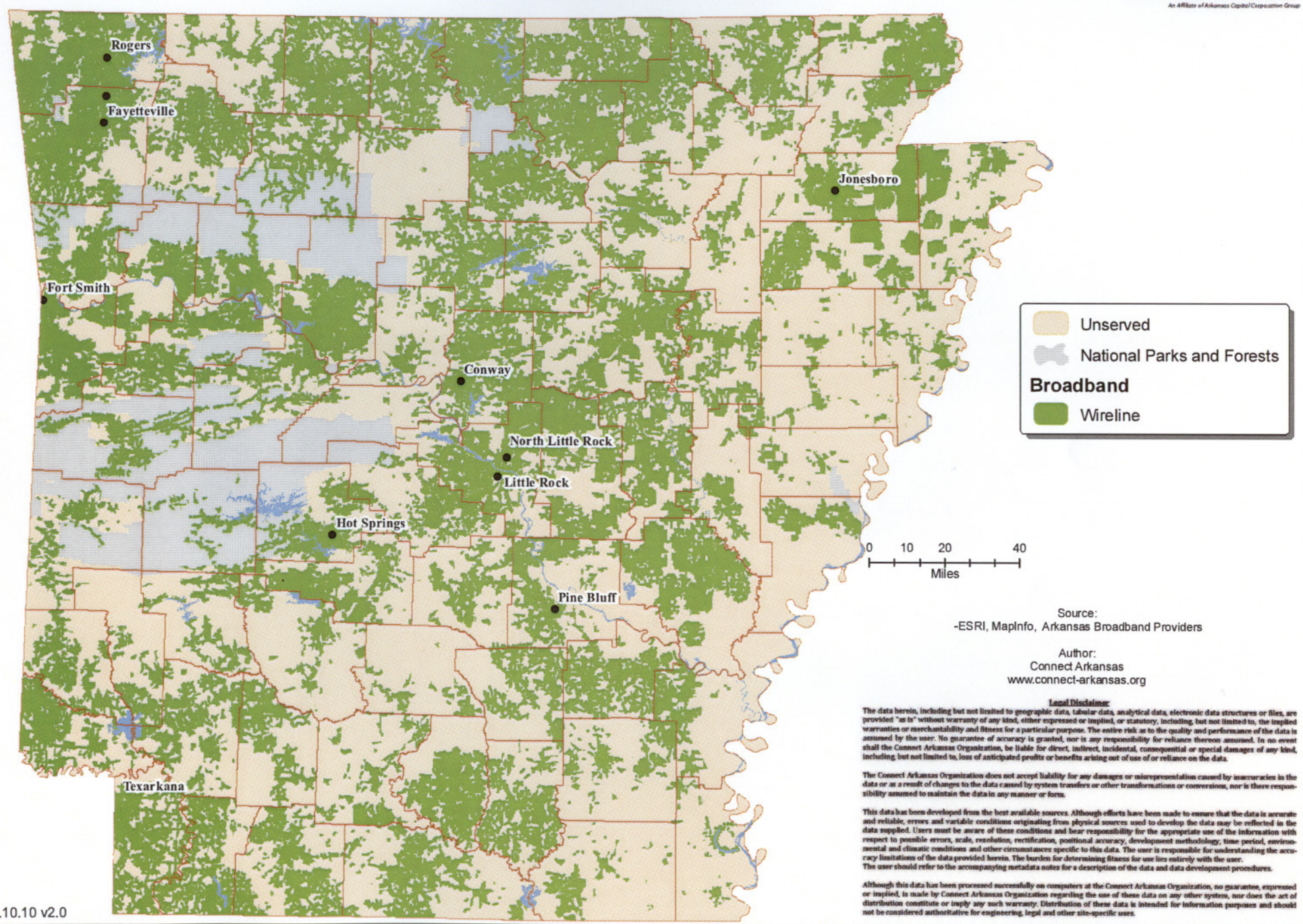

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Arkansas Fixed-Wireless Broadband Availability

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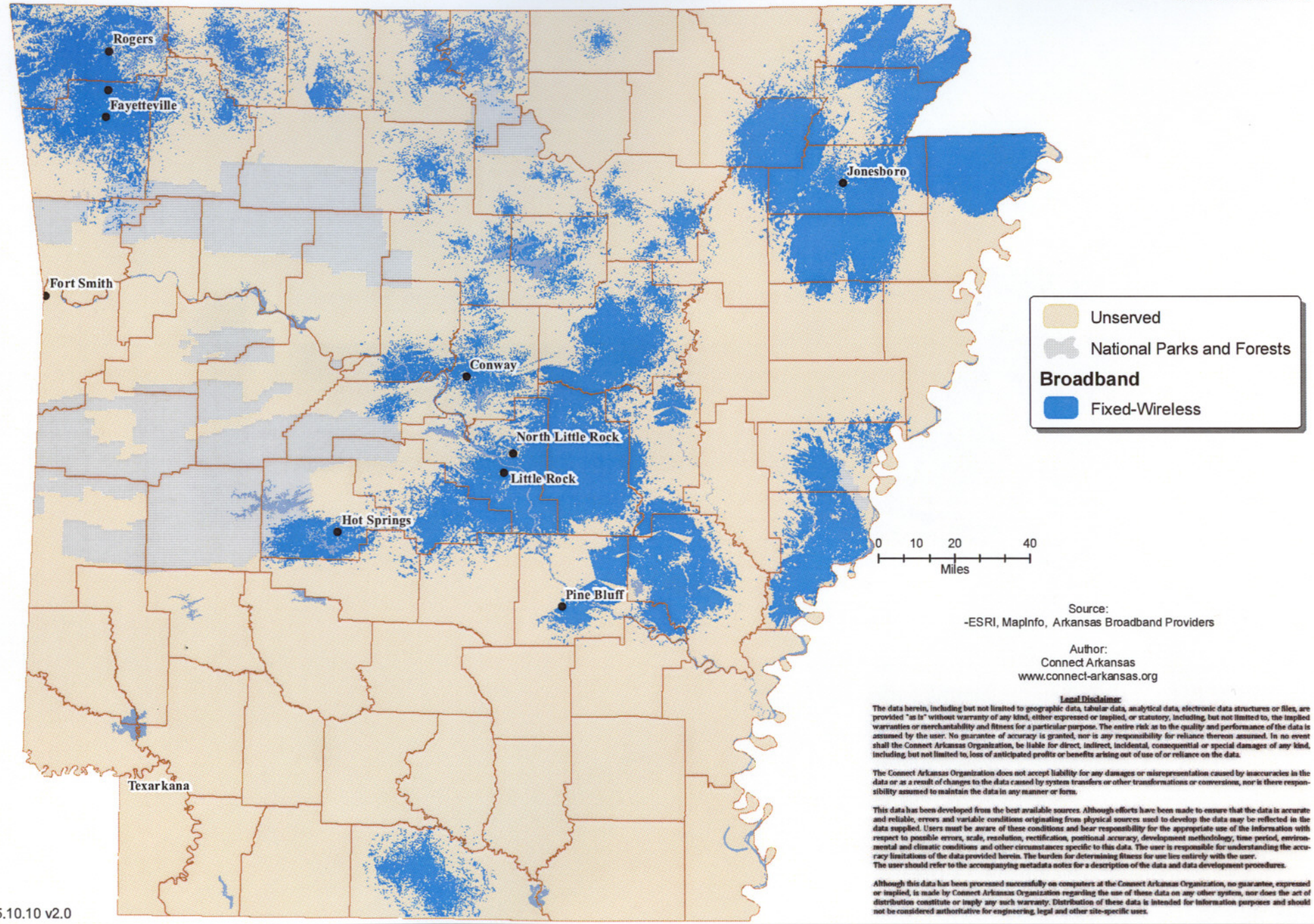

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Arkansas Mobile-Wireless Broadband Availability

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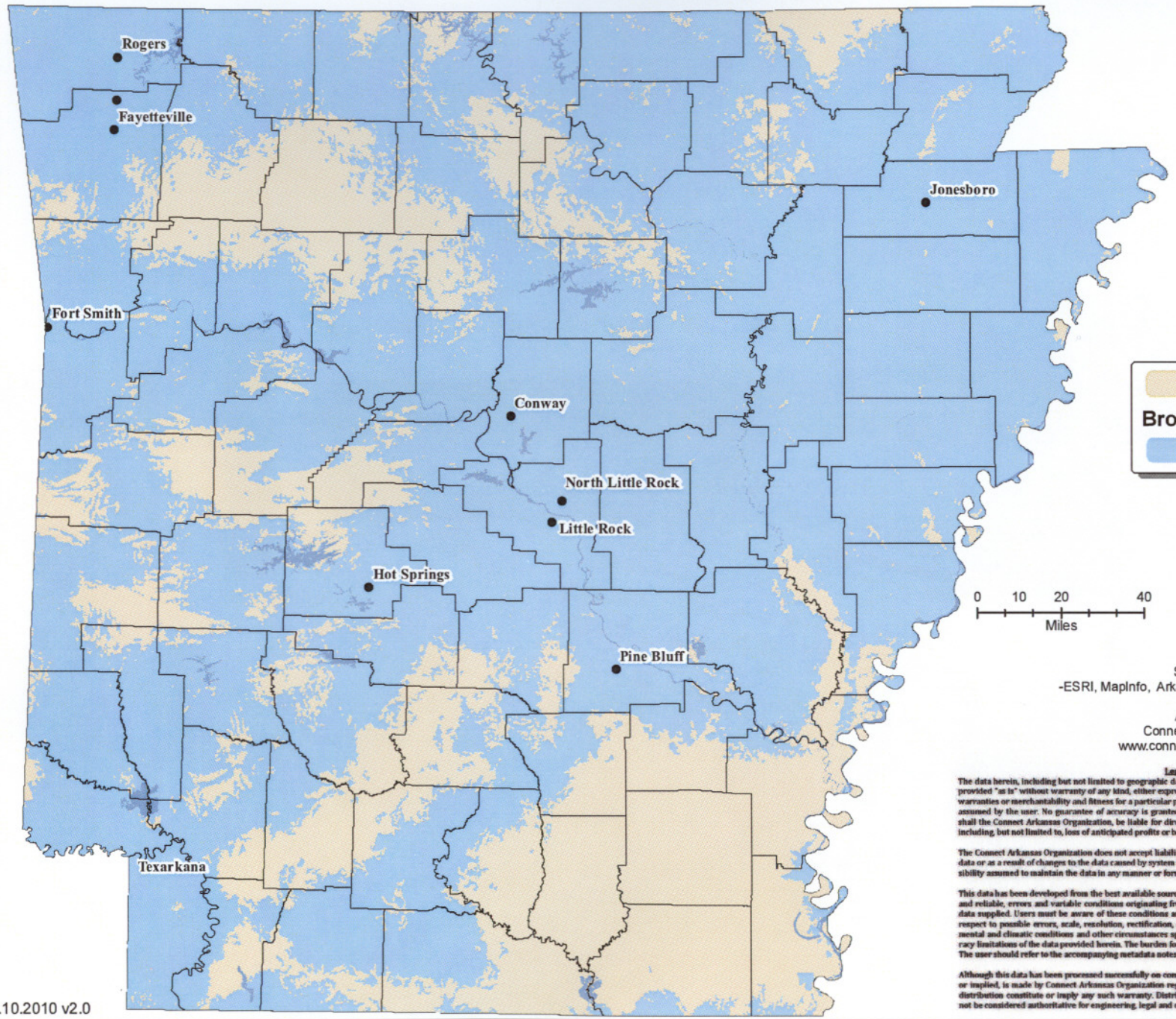

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Arkansas Satellite Broadband Availability

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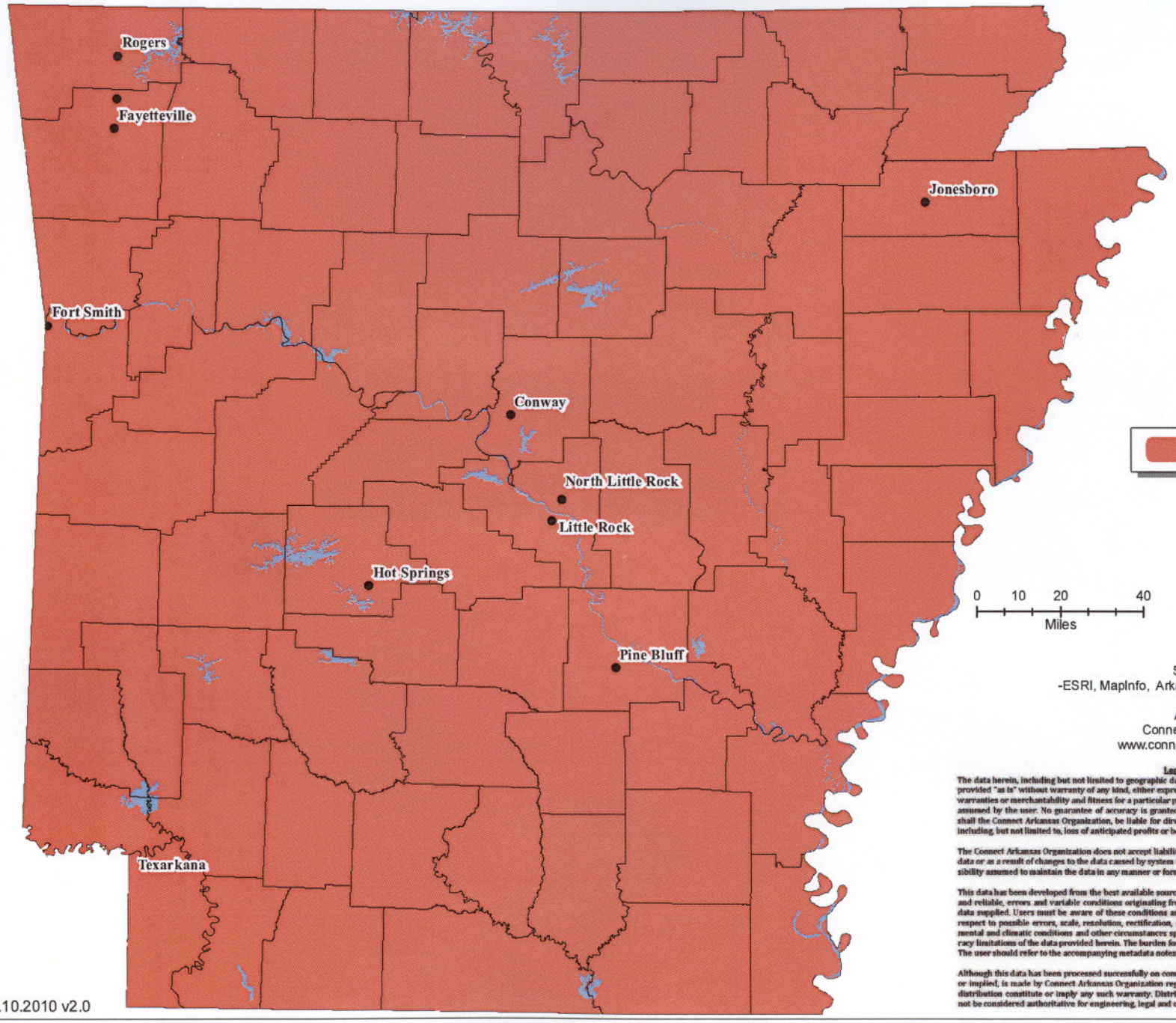

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